

# The Sun

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## The Testimony of the Interstate Commission.

From a Washington despatch in yesterday's SUN we reprint these figures collected and just published by the Interstate Commerce Commission:

"For the month of February, 1914, the net revenue per mile on the Eastern railroads was \$158, as against \$143 a year ago."

"The total operating revenue of the Eastern carriers was \$71,943,399 in February, as against \$68,582,906."

"The total operating expenses in February of this year amounted to \$68,311,927, as against \$64,633,123 a year ago."

"In net operating revenue there was a remarkable decline, one that is said to be unprecedented. In February, 1914, the net operating revenue amounted to only \$3,611,465, as against \$18,949,753 in February, 1913."

"The revenue per mile in February amounted to \$1,565, as against \$1,821 a year ago."

The commission continues to take testimony. Its own testimony is more than sufficient to establish the contention of the railroads for an increase of rates.

## For Democrats to Ponder.

The Republicans challenged the Democrats squarely on the tariff in the Patterson-Passic Congress district. The Democrats accepted the issue. The Republican candidate was elected by an unprecedented majority. Despite President Wilson's personal intervention, his candidate scarcely beat the Socialist.

To add to the discomfort of Mr. Wilson's advisers, while the voters of Passic county were debating a candidate who endorsed the Administration's canal policy, the electors of the Twelfth Massachusetts district were putting in office a Democrat who opposed the repeal of the tariff exemption provision.

The Boston district is normally Democratic. The New Jersey district is historically Republican and has gone for Hughes in the past rather than for Hughes's party. These reflections may lighten today's gloom in Washington, but they do not alter the fact that protection remains a potent issue, nor do they relieve the Democratic party of its consciousness that Roosevelt elected the Democratic ticket in 1912.

## Mr. Underwood's Victory.

Throughout the primary campaign which ended on Monday in the nomination of OSCAR W. UNDERWOOD as Democratic candidate for United States Senator from Alabama Mr. UNDERWOOD attended strictly to his business as a Representative in Congress while his opponent, Representative HONSON, stumped the State, industriously assailing the leader of the majority as a tool of the "liquor interests" and a creature of the "money kings." That his wild and demagogic charges were ineffective is gratifying vindication of the good sense of the majority of the Alabama electorate. That such a man should get such a vote shows how strong in Alabama is the prohibition movement, whose "patter" HONSON utters so unctuously.

President Wilson's contribution to Mr. UNDERWOOD's campaign took the form of inducing Representative CLAYTON to withdraw from the contest and remain in the House. This brought the fight down to a clear cut issue between HONSON and UNDERWOOD. Had CLAYTON remained in the field the returns of Monday's balloting might have told a different story.

Transplanting Mr. UNDERWOOD to the Senate leaves the House Democrats with a serious problem to solve in selecting his successor. Mr. UNDERWOOD has been notably successful in managing an unwieldy majority. The man who takes his place in the Sixty-fourth Congress may not have so many followers, but they will be not less difficult to keep in good humor. Yet the Democracy cannot be so poor in personnel as to be unable to fill the vacancy satisfactorily. If it is that fact is worth knowing.

## Mr. Rockefeller on a Natural Right.

"Do you not think," asked Chairman Foster of the House Committee on Mines and Mining of Mr. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, Jr., "that the fact that the United States Government has taken steps in the strike matter should be a suggestion to you to take more than a passing interest in this case?" Mr. ROCKEFELLER might have replied that he would be more impressed if the strike were any affair of the United States Government. But he was trying to conciliate, so he only said that as he stood to lose a million by the end of the year and disliked bloodshed and trouble, he was taking far more than a passing interest.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER was altogether an unsatisfactory witness to Mr. FOSTER. His answers were of no use whatever to that eminent friend of labor. He asserted an old fashioned sort of freedom, the freedom of every man to work hard and for whom and on whatever terms he pleases. He upheld the right of ninety per cent. of the employees of his company in Colorado to remain free from the dictation of the union if they prefer to do so. He insisted that this was a great principle and declared that he and his friends were ready to lose every cent they had invested in the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company rather than abandon it.

No wonder Mr. FOSTER was displeased and badgered Mr. ROCKEFELLER as a contemptuous witness. What is the use in playing to the galleries if one of the hated wealthy class is to stand up and show that he cares far less for his money than he does for the rights of mankind? The red fire suddenly turns pale and the champion of labor looks sickly in the light of his own greasy torch.

Another Look at the New Financial Map.

It is not New York, either city or State, which is in eruption over the miserable business that the Federal reserve bank organization committee has so far made of the task so confidently entrusted to it. New York has been shabbily dealt with, but, to paraphrase the remark of President Wilson in other premises, New York is big enough to overlook the stupidity of the reserve system organizers and powerful enough to be sure that its financial supremacy will survive useless fatuous politics is able to wreck the economic welfare of the country.

With other cities it is somewhat different. New Orleans, for example, is directing a thunderous protest to Washington against its omission from the list of Federal reserve cities, an omission all the more astonishing because of the preference accorded to Richmond, Atlanta and Dallas. There is a good deal of force in the facts set forth in the resolutions passed at a New Orleans mass meeting presenting the city's demand for recognition.

Its population is 50,000 greater than the population of Atlanta and Richmond combined. It is the second greatest port in the United States and is the largest center of manufacturing industry in the South, its total production being \$18,000,000 greater than the aggregate output of Dallas and Atlanta. In banking resources it exceeds Dallas and Atlanta in combination by about \$15,000,000 and its assessed property valuation is one-third greater than the total of Atlanta and Dallas, and with the completion of the Panama Canal New Orleans may well look forward to an era of prosperous expansion.

Having already been hard hit by the blow which tariff revision struck at the sugar industry in Louisiana, it is not remarkable that New Orleans should see in the slight which has been put upon it by the Federal bank organizers an exhibition of mischievous politics. Indeed there is an obvious justification for the imputation that the committee was actuated very largely by political rather than by economic considerations.

The fact sticks out all over the banking map of the country drawn by the committee that certain arbitrary designations of financial centers were made. Some reserve districts were so chartered as to support the contention that, granted such districts, Richmond, Atlanta and Dallas would be the logical reserve cities therein. It is this which enables the committee to present a superficially plausible defense for itself in the statistical tabulations which it is now issuing to explain its course. The process followed was, however, diametrically opposed to that laid down in the reserve act.

If "due regard" had been had by the committee to "the convenience and customary course of business" the existing commercial centers of the United States, the cities which already act as commercial clearing houses for large areas would first have been designated as reserve cities and the districts would have been arranged around them. The committee's method seems to have been first to plot the districts and then to select the centers, the object of this method being to permit a few favored cities to be arbitrarily chosen.

Children of the Fleet.

Now that the good grapefruit bottle Josephus is in Dry Dock and the wine mess is no more, unless the Josephian ukase be revoked by a President only too familiar with the pragmatism of Secretaries, we seem to hear the voices of the navy officers, those innocent wards of a paternal Government, uttering blessings on the Tarheel Nelson and chanting that noble old early Blowing Rock hymn of his:

"Under the gambeloo  
I dream, sweet love, of you;  
For my soul is crying  
For old Bill Bryan  
Under the gambeloo!"

How beautiful and guileless is this stanza compared with the wet and evil if "classical" ballad, "Farwell to Grog," composed "on the captain board of the United States ship of war Portsmouth August 31, 1862," by Assistant Paymaster CASPAR C. SCHICK.

"Scene: Wardroom of the U. S. S. S. . . . Time: Night of August 31, 1862. The law abolishing grog takes effect September 1, 1862. Air: 'Come, Landlord, Fill the Flowing Bowl.'"

"Come, meesmates, pass the bottle round. Our time is short, remember. For our grog must stop and our spirits drop. On the first day of September."

"Farwell, Old Rye, 'tis a sad, sad word. But, alas! it must be spoken. The ruby cup must be given up And the Demijohn be broken."

"Jack's happy days will soon be gone, To return again, oh, never. For they've raised his pay five cents a day. But stopped his grog forever."

"Yet memory oft will backward turn And dwell with fondness partial On the days when gin was not a sin. Nor cocktails brought courts-martial."

"(Bos'n's mate pipes 'All hands splice the main brace!')"

"All hands to splice the main brace call. But splice it now in sorrow. For the spirit room key will be laid away Forever on to-morrow."

The pay of the nation's tender wards, the naval officers, has not been raised. It is their moral standard that has been elevated. Invisible leading strings keep them from falling. From the coming towers of Virtue the Hon. JOSEPHUS DANIELS and his first love, Colonel BRYAN, watch with moist eyes their little charges, safe now against the temptation of the "wine cup."

## The Education of Pancho.

Senator FALL has referred to GEORGE C. CAROTHERS, consular agent of the United States at Torreon, as "our diplomatic representative with the flying court of FRANCISCO VILLA." Perhaps Mr. CAROTHERS would be better described as the genius who tamed "PANCHE" and converted him to humanity. "The man without a history"—so the consular agent has been called, because the details of his career in the register of the State Department leave so much to be desired by the curious. But GEORGE C. CAROTHERS now attains a measure of fame in reporting upon General VILLA's conduct after Torreon fell.

"VILLA kept every promise that he had made. Not a prisoner was molested, and every Federal who came into our lines was given food and drink in the same proportion that our own soldiers had."

Incredible! It will be said. But Mr. CAROTHERS reports that VILLA is even being brought around to the view that the Spanish nationals may have some rights that he should respect. Such a consummation would be proof positive of the General's conversion. We wish the consular agent luck, but confess to scepticism.

## Why Do They Do It?

Why do the Manhattan and Brooklyn car lines always put on open cars when the weather is chilly, damp, nasty, variably trying and usually bad? Since open cars began in these regions, such has been the practice. There is no spring in New York. There is winter—and a tyrannous old codger and "stayer" this one has been—and there is summer. No wizard can foretell the end of winter; and he is always liable to resume business at the old stand without notice. The car sages seem to have a fixed open season. It's summer in their barns when the rest of the world is shivering and sneezing.

Why do the car sages insist on herding passengers into influenza and pneumonia on wheels?

Snow and rain, snow up the State; two inches at Glover; snow promised (at least) this yesterday morning, even if the weather warlocks changed their minds later in the day; to parody the affecting remark of Mr. TRIVETTER, O. April, April, what a month you are!

Salt to kill mosquitoes—Headline.

This must be the simple way, the good old plan recommended in our boyhood for catching larks. You sprinkle a little on their tails and they hop into your hand.

MARY RICHARDSON now goes free to recuperate after a hunger strike. All the Venetian London had better go into hiding at once.

Those kisses were illusions, pleads the defendant in a current case celebre. Of course they were. They all are.

There is no special significance in the drop in the home rule majority in the House of Commons. WILLIAM O'BRIEN and his following refrained from voting. But if there had been any special need for their votes no doubt they would have been counted in favor of the bill. So far as the support in the Commons goes there can be no doubt as to the passage of the measure. If there be any hitch from now on it must result from outside influences.

Famous orchestra conductors pose for the film pictures—Berlin despatch.

This ought to be cheering to those who regard music as one of the least disagreeable of noises yet are anxious to see such lords of the baton as RICHARD STRAUSS and SIEGFRIED WAGNER at work.

Two dish dinners may never become the rule in New York, but the short dinner is now so well established that it would be impossible to persuade any guests to sit often through the formal dinners customary not many years ago. The German Emperor has shortened all dinners to three-quarters of an hour. It is not reported that he has limited the supply of food to be enjoyed on such occasions.

New Yorkers with the theatre or other diversion in prospect have approached the short dinner question from another viewpoint. The result has been the conclusion that it is better to enjoy a few dishes thoroughly than to security through twice as many. So in spite of the frightened denials of the restaurateurs, it is a fact that the New York dinner is growing shorter so steadily that it is already near the two dish standard.

One of the directors of the California State prisons believes that the attempted escapes at Repressa, in which the guards found it necessary to shoot five prisoners, were the result of "too much coddling and maudlin sympathy" and another director declares that "publicly expressed sentimental sympathy

with convicts made the prisoners believe the warden would not dare to fire on them." Even the testimony of THOMAS MOTT OSBORN, one of the voluntary and involuntary inmates of penal institutions, falls to convince us that all the convicts are gentle folk suffering unjustly the abuses of brutal overseers and masters.

It has been THE SUN's pleasure to devote considerable space and effort in the past to advertising the methods and practices of the Sterling Debutante Company. Its allied corporations and other interesting managers, our attention to these worthies being rendered without their invitation and at times in the face of protests from them which took the form of threats. That the postal authorities and the Federal courts have at last given certain indications connected with the corporations about what they desire in the way of prison sentences is highly gratifying. They were adroit and painstaking in their swindles and thought they could evade the statutes without hampering their trade. It will encourage honest men to see them laid low.

"YOU ALL," "YO' ALL," "YAWL," A Virginian on an Expression "Universal" in the South.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A prolific source of mixed feelings is supplied Southern people by the frequently inaccurate use of Southern dialect in Northern novels and on the stage and by what is aptly meant as serious discussion of the subject by would be dialecticians. One of these discussions is now in progress between readers of your columns, the subject being the phrase "you all," or its contraction "yo' all," which is pronounced "yawl." The expression cannot legitimately be called dialect, I think, unless contracted.

The humor is supplied by the inability of Northerners to understand its use and the fact that the fact that it is good usage, as readers of English literature know. The irritation is evoked when the expression is used ignorantly by people who are not in the least aware of it. It is never so used in the South, so far as a lifelong Virginian is aware. Confusion is caused by the fact that frequently the expression is used to mean, whereas reference is to more than one person. For instance, a Southerner will ask of a friend, "How are you all?" meaning, "How are you and your family?" and to inquire as to the health of the friend and his family, or of others for whom he can speak. Knowing this he answers, "I am well, and my family is well, and so are the health of the persons addressed only, the form of the query is "How are you?" and the answer is "I am well." But you, you all make the distinction in one phrase.

Your correspondent who thinks that only negroes and illiterate whites use the expression is in error. It is used almost universally and is defended as grammatically correct.

VIRGINIAN.

RICHMOND, VA., April 7.

## Arkansas, Arise!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Referring to the communication of Mr. David A. Curtis, of Little Rock, Ark., in your issue of April 7, in which he says, "You all" or "yo' all" as applied to one person in the South, I wish to say that although I have lived in the South all my life, I have never heard of such a thing. I have heard of "you" and "you all," but never of "you all" as applied to one person. I have heard of "you" and "you all," but never of "you all" as applied to one person. I have heard of "you" and "you all," but never of "you all" as applied to one person.

SELMMA, ARK., April 6.

## The Women's Municipal League and the Improvement of Ash Collection.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I have been more than interested in the problem before the Women's Municipal League, and I am taking in improving the method of collecting refuse in New York City. I have had a number of conferences with the Commissioners, and I am sure that before long the city will have a more modern system in operation.

The committee on streets of the Women's Municipal League made the principal item in its program for this year.

Over a year ago, however, we took up this problem with Commissioner Edwards and the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. We sent a letter to the members of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and we have since that time nearly all of the newspapers commented favorably upon our proposal.

The women of the city are certainly interested in this problem, and I can show you from the many letters which I have received from them that they are interested in this problem, and I can show you from the many letters which I have received from them that they are interested in this problem.

What else can happen after a meal smothered by eating from a nose bag? What is our S. P. C. A. for? Why don't they do it? They can and are the ones to do it, but the society, as aid to horses and dogs, as I see it, is mostly in name.

The nose bag for horses should be abolished. It is a cruel and unnecessary device. It is a cruel and unnecessary device. It is a cruel and unnecessary device.

NEW YORK, April 7.

## The I. W. W.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: If the I. W. W. mob enjoy dancing to the music of military bands, then why do they not march in military bands? They are a lawless and dangerous organization. They are a lawless and dangerous organization. They are a lawless and dangerous organization.

NEW YORK, April 7.

## Talk Cure for a Suffragette.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I absolutely have no sense of proportion. He is as witless today as he was in the days of his youth. He is as witless today as he was in the days of his youth. He is as witless today as he was in the days of his youth.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 7.

## The Breakfast Food Family.

From the Chicago Tribune.

John Spratt will eat no fat. Nor will he touch the lean. He would eat of any meat. He lives upon Fodders.

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

### An Independent Californian Opinion of a Dangerous Monopoly.

From the Oakland Enquirer.

There is not a monopoly in existence in this country possessed of higher potentialities for evil than the Associated Press. In the hands of unscrupulous men it could readily be made an instrumentality whereby business would be wrecked in short order, anarchy would succeed order and chaos become enthroned. It is an institution vested with a measure of respectability, which, though small, where the true workings of the monopoly are understood, is nevertheless enough to work havoc where its true character is not known.

But whether carrying conviction or not, the Associated Press "news" service is a dangerous agency, and should be abated. Its sinister purpose is indicated by the studied evasion with which it maintains its identity beyond the reach of the Sherman act and other anti-monopoly legislation. Professing to be an impartial news service, devoted only to the laudable purpose of collecting and disseminating the news of the day as it occurs, without alteration, abbreviation or color, and without corruption, it at the same time, for reasons understood by the informed, but not admitted by the agency, maintains an exclusive organization, in violation of the spirit of the law.

Happily THE NEW YORK SUN, the Outlook, and some other newspapers which are opposed to menacing monopoly, and which do not believe in the doctrine of honoring in the letter but dishonoring in the spirit the laws of the land and the limitations of rectitude, are endeavoring to bring this agency under stricter surveillance.

A strong case has been presented by THE SUN to the United States Attorney-General.

THE SUN alleges that this offensive press service is dominated by this rule, either written or tacitly agreed to, to perpetuate its monopolistic graspings: "That no member of the association shall receive news from any person, firm or corporation which shall have been declared by the board of directors to be antagonistic to the corporation." This boycotting rule indicates the danger of bringing it under government management and governmental supervision. If, as THE SUN alleges, the collection of news throughout the world and its distribution to American newspapers for publication is an act of commerce between the States, and as such comes within the application of the Sherman anti-trust law, which seems self-evident, it is time this irresponsible and high handed monopoly were effectually curbed. The menace of its existence is appalling when studied in the light of the fact that some of its dominant members are naturally inclined to agitate the social danger necessarily involved in their despotic control of any source of popular information.

## ABOLISH THE NOSE BAG.

### How Can a Horse Thrive Eating in an Airtight Sack?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The letter signed "S. P. C. A." appeals strongly to my nature. Anything that can be done to help dumb animals in this city is worthy of aid.

Not only are many of the working horses cruelly treated (look at the coal carts and trucks), but the animals are kept in airtight sacks, and are made to eat from a nose bag, which is a cruel and unnecessary device. It is a cruel and unnecessary device. It is a cruel and unnecessary device.

NEW YORK, April 7.

## The I. W. W.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: If the I. W. W. mob enjoy dancing to the music of military bands, then why do they not march in military bands? They are a lawless and dangerous organization. They are a lawless and dangerous organization. They are a lawless and dangerous organization.

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NEW YORK, April 7.

## SENATOR OLIVER'S VOTE.

### A Constituent's Plain Language About His Shift to Canal Exemption.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: Did you not inadvertently make a mistake when, editorially commenting on the decision of Senator Oliver of Pennsylvania to vote against the tolls repeal bill, you said that he was evaluating his mind? Has a man a mind who shows so little conception of a Senator's responsibility that he will vote, not as conscience and intelligence direct, but as he imagines the majority of his constituents think? I say imagine, for Mr. Oliver has no real idea of what the best people of the State desire if he judges that they approve of free tolls to continue shipping in spite of the treaty. As you say, it is the duty of a representative to vote according to truth and knowledge, not to follow the changeable popular cry. If Lincoln and Howard had regarded themselves as bound by the popular feeling at the time of the capture of the South's commissioners on the ocean should we honor them, as we do, for acting upon their convictions of right?

It is very discouraging to have a man in the position of United States Senator yield to what he imagines is the popular clamor, and not to realize that he is elected to legislate on principle and for the honor of the country. To vote like a weather vane, to vote as the wind blows, is a disgrace to the office. A man lacks the qualities of a statesman and is only a demagogue.

There is no question that the fair and honest interpretation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is against the tolls bill, and it is astonishing that, not even for a large public or national profit, but simply for a good reason, there is an attempt to raise a popular outcry against England, men should support this dishonorable legislation. Senator Oliver may change his mind, but he will not change his character, and in the future it will be remembered that he was untrue to his conviction and faithless to his oath for the sake of passing a popular bill.

PITTSBURGH REPUBLICAN.

PITTSBURGH, April 6.

## AN OLD SOLDIER'S PROTEST.

### Much Nonsense Written About the Hardships of Army Life.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The article in *Harper's* contributed by one Charles Johnson Post are undoubtedly attracting much attention, and probably they have had some effect in making the public more sympathetic. Mr. Post takes exception to the fact that soldiers have to undergo such dreadful tasks as unloading ashes, sweeping walks, digging ditches, and other duties necessary in routine garrison life. These tasks have to be done, and as the Government doesn't provide valets and attendants, the soldiers naturally have to wait on themselves. I believe that it falls to the lot of many civilians to perform the self-same tasks. Mr. Post has taken exception to the fact that soldiers have to wait on themselves. I believe that it falls to the lot of many civilians to perform the self-same tasks. Mr. Post has taken exception to the fact that soldiers have to wait on themselves. I believe that it falls to the lot of many civilians to perform the self-same tasks.

It is true that men desert; just why it is often hard to determine. It is rare that a good man will ever desert himself as to violate his oath to his country and his God and desert the flag. In my long service of forty years as an enlisted man, both in the regular army and in the reserve, I have never known a man desert. I have known men to desert half a dozen times or more from different organizations. Of these men, the vast majority are deserters who have known many deserters. I have known men to desert half a dozen times or more from different organizations. Of these men, the vast majority are deserters who have known many deserters.

What does the army offer the soldier who does his duty? His pay on the active list ranges from \$13.00 to \$16.00 a month, according to length of service, and in addition he receives board, clothing, comfortable quarters, including fuel and light, and a small gratuity, also time for baseball and other sports. He is also provided with medical and dental services. If he is so inclined he may invest some of his money in the Government and draw 4 per cent. interest, which is forfeited only by desertion. Furloughs are given, sometimes for months, and he can take